

## Message Text

SECRET

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45

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OPR-02 SY-10 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-15

RSC-01 H-03 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 INRE-00

SCA-01 USSS-00 DRC-01 ( ISO ) W  
----- 046485

P 081325Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO CINCPAC/HONOLULU HI

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3317

SECDEF

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

COMUSSAG NKP THAI

JCS WASHDC

FNFPAC CP SMITH HI

COMUSMACTHAI BKK THAI

USDA BKK THAI

S E C R E T PHNOM PENH 10847

E.O. 11652: GDS 31 DEC 81

SUBJECT: ARG ALFA/MAU READINESS POSTURE (U)

REFS: A CINCPACFLT MSG 302342Z SEP 73 WHICH SUPPORTED CINCPAC  
PROPOSAL TO DECREASE ARG/MAU READINESS TO TOTAL TIME 168 HOURS  
(96 HOURS FOR ALERT AND EMBARKATION PLUS 72 HOURS FOR  
STEAMING) TO KG SOM STATION.

B. AMEMB PHNOM PENH MSG 261050Z SEP 73 WHICH RECOMMENDED TOTAL  
RESPONSE TIME TO KG SOM OF NO MORE THAN 120 HOURS.

1. (S) THE PURPOSE OF THIS MESSAGE IS TO CLARIFY THE OPTIONS FOR  
EVACUATION AS CITED IN PARAGRAPH 3 OF REFERENCE A AND TO AGAIN  
REQUEST RESPONSE TIME OF NO MORE THAN 120 HOURS.

2. (S) BOTH OPTIONS 1 AND 2 OF EAGLE PULL PLAN ASSUME THAT  
POCHENTONG AIR BASE AND ACCESS HIGHWAY FROM PHNOM PENH ARE  
UNDER FRIENDLY CONTROL AND PERSONNEL COULD BE EASILY EVACUATED  
BY CIVILIAN AIRCRAFT OR BY USAF C-130 AIRCRAFT. IN THE EVENT  
THE ENEMY SITUATION DENIES THE USE OF POCHENTONG, THE THIRD  
LEVEL OPTION (HELICOPTER EVACUATION FROM THE CITY) IS THE ONLY

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OPTION THAT COULD BE EMPLOYED.

3. (S) THE AMEMB PHNOM PENH IS ON RECORD THAT A TWO-LIFT HELICOPTER EVACUATION (OPTION 3) WAS NOT REPEAT NOT ACCEPTABLE AND THAT A SINGLELIFT HELICOPTER EVACUATION (OPTION 3A) WAS HIGHLY DESIRABLE. UNDER OPTION 3A ARG/MAU ASSETS ARE NOT CONSIDERED AS BACK-UP FORCES BUT A PART OF THE TOTAL EVACUATION FORCE.

4. (S) NEGATIVE AMEMB POSITION ON THE CHANGE TO 168 HOURS RESPONSE TIME WAS FORWARDED BY REFERENCE B. REQUEST 168 HOUR RESPONSE TIME BE REDUCED TO 120 HOURS. PRIMARY REASONS FOR THIS POSITION ARE:

A. THE INHERENT REAL UNPREDICTABILITY OF THE SITUATION.

B. THE FIRST HELICOPTER LIFT WILL ELIMINATE THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE.

C. THE DANGER OF LEAVING EVACUEES AND GSF IN PHNOM PENH FOR APPROXIMATELY 6 1/2 HOURS WHILE AWAITING SECOND ARRIVAL OF HELICOPTERS IS UNACCEPTABLE.

D. INCREASING NUMBER OF POTENTIAL EVACUEES.

ENDERS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY EVACUATION, MILITARY TRANSPORTATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 OCT 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** elyme  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973PHNOM10847  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS ENDERS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** PHNOM PENH  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19731045/aaaabgrp.tel  
**Line Count:** 78  
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**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** A CINCPACFLT MSG 302342Z SEP 73 WHIC, H SUPPORTED CINCPAC  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** elyme  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ARG ALFA/MAU READINESS POSTURE (U)  
**TAGS:** MILI, CB  
**To:** n/a  
**Type:** TE  
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